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PRESS RELEASE

Commissioner George P. Bush Announces Construction of Texas Border Wall on State Lands

Construction formally begins on farm tract in Starr County

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Rio Grande City — Today, Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush joined together with Governor Greg Abbott to provide an update on the construction of Texas border wall on a state-owned farm tract in Starr County. This site is where Commissioner Bush earlier announced an agreement between the General Land Office (GLO) and the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) to initiate the construction of the border wall. "Our state is facing a border crisis like none we've ever seen before. Washington continues to ignore it even as Texans' lives are endangered, properties damaged, and record levels of harmful drugs pour into our communities," said Commissioner Bush. "Texas will not stand idly by watching this surge of illegal border activity harm our neighborhoods and economy. If Washington won't act, Texas will. We will not stop until this wall is built and our border is secure. Fighting for border security requires a team effort, and I thank Governor Abbott, the state legislature, and our other partner agencies for their support of this cause."

Earlier this year, Commissioner Bush issued an emergency authorization for use of state-owned lands for the purpose of construction of Texas border wall.

The agreement between GLO and DPS pertaining to this 3,099-acre farm went into effect late November. This agreement allows the state a right of entry on the farm tract for the purpose of constructing a border wall. The TFC is in charge of construction. Recent actions taken by Commissioner Bush to bolster border security:

- NOVEMBER 29, 2021- COMMISSIONER GEORGE P. BUSH ANNOUNCES
 AGREEMENT AUTHORIZING CONSTRUCTION OF BORDER WALL ON STATE OWNED LAND
- SEPTEMBER 15, 2021- <u>COMMISSIONER GEORGE P. BUSH ANNOUNCES</u> NEW LEASES FOR BORDER PATROL OPERATIONS
- JULY 14, 2021- <u>COMMISSIONER BUSH LAUNCHES SUIT AGAINST BIDEN</u> ADMINISTRATION TO BUILD THE WALL
- JUNE 16, 2021- TEXAS LAND COMMISSIONER GEORGE P. BUSH MAKES EMERGENCY AUTHORIZATION FOR BORDER WALL CONSTRUCTION ON STATE LANDS

• FEBRUARY 8, 2021- <u>LAND OFFICE LAUNCHES TEXAS DEFENSE TASK</u> <u>FORCE</u>